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REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of subject claims 10 - 18 are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC 103

Claims 10-18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over US 4,120,914 to Behnke et al. (Behnke) in view of US 5,299,602 to Barbeau et al. (Barbeau) and further in view of US 6,349,531 to Kolmes et al (Kolmes).

In the previous response, the Applicant had presented reasons why Kolmes does not disclose or suggest a random entangled loop structure as recited in claim 10 and in fact teaches away from the claimed invention. The Examiner asserts that Kolmes teaches a random entangled loop structure as disclosed at column 1, lines 59-64. The Examiner asserts that Kolmes positively teaches that loops would be present within the yarn and on the outside of the yarn. However, column 1, lines 59-64 only discloses that loops may be present. It is well accepted that establishing a prima facie case of obviousness requires (in addition to a motivation to combine references) a reasonable expectation of success and a teaching or suggestion of all of the claim limitations. Kolmes provides insufficient disclosure to provide a reasonable expectation of success because at column 1, lines 55-60 it teaches away from the invention by disclosing that the loops are formed and then closed and at column 1, lines 59-64, Kolmes merely discloses that loops may be present. Further, Kolmes, along with the other references, does not disclose or suggest a random entangled loop structure, wherein the weight per unit length of the yarn is 3 to 25 percent higher than a continuous filament yarn having the same composition but no entanglement or loops as recited in claim 10.

Applicant therefore maintains the Examiner has failed to show a prima facie case of obviousness. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.


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CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing is a complete response to the subject Office Action. Applicants believe that all rejections can be overcome and that the instant claims are now in condition for allowance. If any matters remain for resolution, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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